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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Information from Frenzlau

615920

EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

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DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 3 February 1954REFERENCES [REDACTED]PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]REMARKS [REDACTED]

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 21 December 1953, the barracks installation on the northwest side of Berliner Strasse in Frenzlau was occupied beyond capacity.

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[REDACTED] one Colonel Tarasov (fnu) (phonetic spelling) was in command of all units in the two installations. One Kusmin (fnu) was supply officer and Dedekov (fnu) was the commanding officer of a tank unit. Between 14 and 21 December, JS-2 tanks

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[REDACTED] were at the installation. Between 29 December and 8 January soldiers were seen engaged in basic infantry training in the barracks yard and about 150 other soldiers in field training on the new training area just southwest of the installation. Between 29 December and 8 January, soldiers practiced with JS-2 tanks and JSU-122 almost daily. A radio truck with extended antenna was seen near a garage in the barracks yard.

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2. On 8 January, the barracks installation on the southeast side of Berliner Strasse was occupied by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets.

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[REDACTED] the ranking supply officer was one Grodietski (fnu). Almost daily, about 400 troops engaged in field training in the training area bordering the installation to the southwest. T-34 tanks entered the installation. On 29 December, T-34 tanks were parked under an open shed. On 29 December, soldiers practiced with 8 x 120-mm mortars west of the barracks installation. 1

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6. On 14 January, the barracks installation on the northwest side of Berliner Strasse was occupied by about 1,200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Between 11 and 14 January, [] a 2-meter board fence was completed along Highway No 109 in the extension of the barracks installation toward Berlin. The southwestern section of the fenced-in area was open. Three wooden obstacles, about 3 meters high and 5 meters wide were erected about 50 meters off the old barracks fence. The obstacles seemed to serve as target installation. Six JS-3 tanks, fronting the targets, and soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen. No training activity was conducted in the barracks yard between 11 and 14 January. A new, armored four-wheel vehicle [] was twice seen entering the barracks installation from the direction of Waldhaus. Motor vehicles [] were identified in traffic to and from the installation.

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7. On 14 January, the barracks installation on the southeast side of Berliner Strasse quartered about 2,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Soldiers practiced aiming with 2 x 45-mm AT guns on the target range south-east of the installation.
8. On 14 January, soldiers practiced aiming with 3 x 120-mm mortars, and about 30 to 45 soldiers received field training, on the Kleine Heide garrison training grounds southwest of the installation, on either side of Highway 109 to Berlin. About 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying light machine guns, submachine guns and rifles marched toward the barracks installations from the direction of the target ranges, about 150 meters west of the Waldschaenke inn. Volkspolizei personnel practiced firing on two of the target ranges. 1

1. Comment. Compared with reports of mid-December [redacted] report indicates that the two barracks installations still quartered the units of the 25th Tank Div up to mid-January 1954. [redacted] The officers are known except for Colonel Tarasov (fnu), who is probably the senior officer at Prenzlau military post. It is possible that Colonel Kusmin (fnu), who has so far been carried as commander of the 83d Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the division, is only supply officer and that Colonel Tarasov is the regimental commander. Lieutenant Dedenkov (fnu) may be battalion commander in the regiment.

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